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DOCKET NO: 204424US2SDIV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

HIDEO ANDO ET AL.

SERIAL NO: 09/805,891

FILED: MARCH 15, 2001

FOR: STREAM DATA GENERATION METHOD AND PARTIAL ERASE PROCESSING
METHOD

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FEB 03 2003

Technology Center 2600

GROUP: 2655

EXAMINER: A. NEYZARI

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated December 31, 2002, Applicants provisionally elect with traverse Group I, Claims 27-32, 34, and 35, directed to an information medium containing a data structure stored on the medium and method for reading out bitstream information. Applicants traverse the restriction requirement for the following reason:

MPEP § 803 states:

MPEP § 803

... If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

However, the outstanding Restriction Requirement has not established that an undue burden would exist if the Restriction Requirement was not issued and all the claims were examined together. Moreover, the claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding Restriction requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

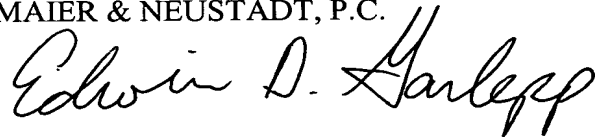
Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single group be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of Claims 27-36 be conducted.

Attention should be drawn to Applicants' representatives' change of address, effectively January 6, 2003:

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Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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RE: U.S. Application
Serial No: 09/805,891
Filed: March 15, 2001
Inventor: Hideo Ando et al.
For: Stream Data Generation Method and Partial . . .

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Our check in the amount of \$--0-- is attached covering any required fees. In the event that any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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